



## Subject Index

	Page
Summary of argument .....	1
Argument .....	3

### I

Section 241(f) was intended to supplement the other ameliorative provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and is thus in concert with the overall statutory scheme of the act .....	3
---	---

### II

The application of the waiver provisions of Section 241 (f) to aliens who gained entry by claiming citizenship* is consistent with the explicit language of the statute and the congressional intent .....	6
Conclusion .....	13

## Table of Authorities Cited

Cases	Pages
Arakas v. Zimmerman, 200 F.2d 322 (C.A.2, 1952) .....	6
Cabuco-Flores v. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 477 F.2d 108 (C.A.9, 1973), cert. denied, 414 U.S. 841 ..	9, 19
Echeverria v. Immigration and Naturalization Service (Opinion unpublished) C.A.9, Feb. 27, 1974 (Petition for Cert. presently pending before this Court, No. 73-1917) ..	8, 10
Gambino v. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 419 F.2d 1355 (C.A.2, 1972), cert. denied, 399 U.S. 905 .....	8
Godoy v. Rosenberg, 415 F.2d 1266 (C.A.9, 1969) .....	7
Gonzalez v. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 493 F.2d 461 (C.A.5, 1974) .....	10
Gonzalez de Moreno v. United States Immigration and Naturalization Service, 492 F.2d 532 (C.A.5, 1974) .....	10
Immigration and Naturalization Service v. Errico, 385 U.S. 214 (1966) .....	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10
Immigration and Naturalization Service v. Vitales, 405 U.S. 983 (1972) .....	9

	Pages
Lee Fook Chuey v. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 439 F.2d 244 (C.A.9, 1971) .....	10
Monarrez-Monarrez v. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 472 F.2d 119 (C.A.9, 1972) .....	7, 8
Muslemi v. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 408 F.2d 1196 (C.A.9, 1969) .....	8, 9, 10
Orlando v. Robinson, 262 F.2d 850 (C.A.7, 1959) .....	6
Reid v. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 492 F.2d 251 (C.A.2, 1974) .....	8, 10
United States v. Osuna-Picos, 443 F.2d 907 (C.A.9, 1971) .....	10
Vitales v. Immigration and Naturalization Service, 443 F.2d 343 (C.A.9, 1971) .....	9

### House Reports

H.R. Rep. No. 1199, 85th Cong., 1st Sess. p. 11, U.S. Cong. & Admin. News 1957, p. 2924 .....	5
--	---

### Regulations

8 C.F.R. Section 235.1 (b) .....	8, 13
----------------------------------	-------

### Statutes

Immigration and Nationality Act Amendments of 1957, Sec- tion 7, Pub. L. 85-316, 71 Stat. 639 (1957) .....	5, 11
Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C.:	
Section 1101(a) (13) .....	11
Section 1101(b) (5) (§101(b) (5)) .....	5, 6
Section 1182(a) (1)-(31) .....	5
Section 1182(a) (9) .....	4
Section 1182(a) (18) .....	8
Section 1182(a) (19) .....	8
Section 1182(a) (20) .....	8, 9
Section 1182(a) (21) .....	8
Section 1225 .....	8, 13
Section 1251(a) (1) .....	9, 10
Section 1251(f) (§241(f)) .....	passim
Section 1252(a) (2) .....	10
Section 1254 (§244) .....	4, 5, 6
Section 1255 (§245) .....	4, 5, 6

**In the Supreme Court**  
**OF THE**  
**United States**

---

OCTOBER TERM, 1973

---

No. 73-1541

---

ROBERT REID and NADIA ALICE REID,  
*Petitioners,*

vs.

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE,  
*Respondent.*

---

On Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the United States  
Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

**REPLY BRIEF OF DANIEL PEREZ ECHEVERRIA**  
**AMICUS CURIAE FOR PETITIONERS**

---

**SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT**

Amicus Curiae contend, as the Court held in *Immigration and Naturalization Service v. Errico*, 385 U.S. 214 (1966), that the overriding intent of Congress when it enacted §241(f) was to reunite families composed in part of U. S. citizens or aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence. Congress was therefore willing to forgive a minor fraud such as a false claim to citizenship in the interest of promoting

"family unity." Strict application of the other ameliorative provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act would deny relief from deportation to aliens who would be otherwise eligible for §241(f) relief. Given the overriding intent of Congress to promote family unity, it is inconceivable that Congress could have intended such a harsh result to follow. Therefore, it is submitted that Congress intended §241(f) to supplement the other ameliorative provisions of the Act, so as to provide relief in instances where it would otherwise be denied because of the strict application of the other ameliorative provisions of the Act.

In addition, Amicus Curiae contend that the fraud in procuring "entry" by falsely claiming United States citizenship is directly analogous to the fraud practiced by the Respondents in *Errico, supra*. In *Errico*, the Court held that the overriding humanitarian interest in promoting family unity saved an alien from deportation despite the fact that he entered the United States through a fraudulently obtained immigrant visa, provided that he was "otherwise admissible" at the time of entry. The Court implied that the administrative laxity which prevented Errico's fraud from being discovered until after he had established a family in the United States should not work a forfeiture of the rights of his family composed in part of United States citizens.

A central point in Petitioner's claim in *Errico* was that he submitted himself to inspection by the Immigration officers and afforded them an opportunity to discover his fraud. In this respect, an entry through

a false claim to citizenship is no different from an entry via a fraudulently obtained immigrant visa.

Section 241(f) applies in the case of an alien who procures a "visa, or other documentation *or entry*" [emphasis added] by fraud or misrepresentation. While the literal language of §241(f) could be construed to require the application of §241(f) to *all* forms of illegal entry, it is reasonable to conclude that Congress intended §241(f) to apply only in cases where the aliens afforded the Immigration authorities a chance to inspect and exclude them. In keeping with the Court's decision in *Errico* and the legislative intent of §241(f) we submit that the case of an alien who falsely claims United States citizenship during an inspection at a Port of Entry is a logical stopping place for the application of §241(f).

---

## ARGUMENT

### I

**SECTION 241(f) WAS INTENDED TO SUPPLEMENT THE OTHER AMELIORATIVE PROVISIONS OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT, AND IS THUS IN CONCERT WITH THE OVERALL STATUTORY SCHEME OF THE ACT.**

The Service raises the specious argument that promoting "family unity" was not the overriding factor which prompted Congress to enact §241(f). This argument flies in the face of the express Legislative history of §241(f) and the unequivocal language in *Immigration and Naturalization Service v. Errico*, 385 U.S. 214 (1966). The Service argues that this

policy of promoting family unity, regardless of its desirability must necessarily be subordinated to the interests of maintaining the integrity of the Immigration procedures.<sup>1</sup> Further, the Service argues that to grant an automatic waiver of deportation charges to an alien who enters through a false claim to citizenship conflicts with the other ameliorative provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act.<sup>2</sup> Accordingly, Congress could not have intended that an alien who entered through a false claim to citizenship should take greater benefits than one who submitted himself for inspection and subjected himself to the discretion of the Attorney General.

The Service's argument conflicts with this Court's opinion in *Errico, supra*. In addition, it overlooks the fact that §241(f) by its very nature contemplates inspection, albeit retroactive, in order for the alien to establish that he was "otherwise admissible" at the time of entry. The term "otherwise admissible" refers to inadmissibility on generally applicable mental, moral and physical grounds. See *Immigration and Naturalization Service v. Errico*, 385 U.S. 214 (1966). These "qualitative" grounds of excludability are by their very nature not easily extinguishable by time; they are readily documented, as in the case of a conviction for a crime involving "moral turpitude." See 8 U.S.C. §1182(a) (9). A retroactive inspection as is

---

<sup>1</sup>Respondent's brief pp. 17-22.

<sup>2</sup>§244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. §1254, "Suspension of Deportation" and §245 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. §1255, "Adjustment of Status."



required in a §241(f) case is functionally no different from that required in a §245 case.<sup>3</sup>

Moreover, the Service's argument displays a misunderstanding of the role §241(f) plays in the statutory scheme of the Immigration and Nationality Act. The forerunner to §241(f), §7 of the 1957 Act, identified the primary beneficiaries of the provision as "... mostly Mexican Nationals. . . . H.R. Rep. No. 1199, 85th Cong., 1st Sess. p. 11, U.S. Cong. & Admin. News 1957, p. 2924. The Legislative history indicates that §241(f) was not intended to change the substance or intent of §7. *Errico, supra*, at 223. Another ameliorative provision of that Act, §245, specifically precludes relief to Natives of the Western Hemisphere, and the islands adjacent thereto. Similarly, §244 precludes relief to any native of any country contiguous to the United States unless the alien can establish that he is ineligible to receive a "special immigrant visa."<sup>4</sup> Therefore, Congress intended §241

<sup>3</sup>The other grounds of excludability are contained in 8 U.S.C. §1182(a)(1)-(31). Note that since §241(f) by its terms requires the alien to establish that he was "otherwise admissible" at the time of entry, the burden is necessarily on him to provide the requisite documentation.

<sup>4</sup>Section 244 of the Act provides that the Attorney General in his discretion can suspend the deportation of an alien who "has been physically present in the United States for a continuous period of not less than seven years immediately preceding the date of such application, and proves that during all such period he was and is a person of good moral character; and is a person whose deportation, in the opinion of the Attorney General would result in extreme hardship to the alien, his spouse, parent or child, who is a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence. . . .

(f) No provision of this section shall be applicable to an alien who . . . (3) is a native of any country contiguous to the United States, or any island named in §101(b)(5): *Provided* that the



(f) to supplement the other ameliorative provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act so as to provide relief from deportation in cases where it would normally be denied because the alien was born in the wrong Hemisphere or because he committed a minor "fraud or misrepresentation" in obtaining entry.<sup>5</sup>

## II

### THE APPLICATION OF THE WAIVER PROVISIONS OF §241(f) TO ALIENS WHO GAINED ENTRY BY CLAIMING CITIZENSHIP IS CONSISTENT WITH THE EXPLICIT LANGUAGE OF THE STATUTE AND THE CONGRESSIONAL INTENT.

Implicit in the Service's brief and in its contentions throughout this proceeding is the argument that a ruling that applies §241(f) to the Reids will inevitably apply to all forms of illegal entry into the

Attorney General may in his discretion agree to the granting of Suspension of Deportation to any alien specified in clause (3) of this subsection if such alien establishes to the satisfaction of the Attorney General that he is ineligible to receive Special Immigrant visa."

Section 245 of the Act provides that "The status of an alien . . . who was inspected and admitted or paroled into the United States may be adjusted by the Attorney General in his discretion and under such regulations as he may prescribe, to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence if (1) the alien makes an application for such adjustment, (2) the alien is eligible to receive an immigrant visa and is admissible to the United States for permanent residence, and (3) an immigrant visa is immediately available to him at the time his application is approved . . . (c) The provisions of this section shall not be applicable to any alien who is a native of any Country of the Western Hemisphere, or of any adjacent island named in §101(b)(5)."

<sup>5</sup>Since both provisions require the discretion of the Attorney General and §244 requires that the alien be a person of "good moral character," even a minor fraud or misrepresentation such as a false claim of citizenship, would preclude relief under these provisions. *Orlando v. Robinson*, 262 F.2d 850 (C.A. 7, 1959); *Arakas v. Zimmerman*, 200 F.2d 322 (C.A.2, 1952).

United States. The Service's argument infers that such a ruling overrules *Monarrez-Monarrez v. Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 472 F.2d 119 (C.A.9, 1972), thereby "opening up the floodgates" to illegal alien traffic into the United States. This argument ignores the explicit language of the statute, the express legislative history of §241(f) and the major substantive differences among the types of illegal entry into the United States which can arise in a §241(f) context.

The reported cases to date have dealt with four functionally different types of entry.

First, there is the case of an entry by an alien who has submitted himself to the immigrant visa screening procedures, actually obtained a visa, albeit by fraud and entered the United States on the basis of that visa. This was the factual situation in *Immigration and Naturalization Service v. Errico*, 385 U.S. 214 (1966). §241(f) is clearly applicable to this type of case. *Godoy v. Rosenberg*, 415 F.2d 1266 (C.A. 9, 1969).

Secondly, there are the extreme instances, involving totally surreptitious entry (the so-called "wet-back" or "stowaway" cases). These cases involve aliens who enter the United States by stealth through our contiguous land borders, or escape detection from Immigration Officers at Ports of Entry. While this Court has never faced the question of the applicability of §241(f) to an alien who enters surreptitiously, two circuits have held §241(f) inapplicable to aliens seeking relief from deportation on the basis of

such entry. See *Monarrez-Monarrez v. Immigration and Naturalization Service*, *supra* (surreptitious entry by concealment in the trunk of a car); *Gambino v. Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 419 F.2d 1355 (C.A.2, 1972), cert. denied, 399 U.S. 905 (entry as a stowaway).<sup>6</sup>

A third major category of §241(f) cases involve aliens who originally entered the United States based upon a temporary non-immigrant visa, overstayed, and then sought to invoke §241(f) as a defense to deportation by alleging that they had the requisite fraudulent intent to overstay at the time of their initial entry. The appellate case law on this type of §241(f) case has been inconsistent. For instance, the Ninth Circuit in *Muslemi v. Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 408 F.2d 1196 (C.A.9, 1969) held that §241(f) was applicable to the "overstay"

---

<sup>6</sup>In *Monarrez-Monarrez*, *supra*, the Court refused to hold §241(f) applicable to an alien who entered surreptitiously in the trunk of a car in that such a totally surreptitious entry did not constitute "fraud or misrepresentation" within the purview of §241(f). At the same time, the *Gambino* case can be distinguished from *all* other §241(f) cases since 8 U.S.C. §1182(a)(18) sets up an entirely separate ground for exclusion for "aliens who are stowaways". In fact, the Court in *Gambino* distinguished *Errico*, *supra* on that very ground and held §241(f) inapplicable, reasoning that *Errico* applied only to aliens excludable at the time of entry under 8 U.S.C. §1182(a)(19)(20) or (21) and not to aliens excludable under 8 U.S.C. §1182(a)(18).

Without delving into the Court's reasoning in *Monarrez* and *Gambino* those cases cannot govern the instant case. In neither of those cases did the alien confront an Immigration officer for inspection. In *Reid*, as in *Echeverria*, Petition for Cert. presently pending before this Court, No. 73-1917, the aliens put the Immigration officer on notice that they were coming to the United States to reside permanently, else they would not have claimed United States citizenship. The officer was thus afforded an opportunity to exercise his right to investigate and inevitably exclude them as aliens pursuant to 8 C.F.R. §235.1(b), 8 U.S.C. §1225.

situation. In 1971 this position was reaffirmed by the court in *Vitales v. Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 443 F.2d 343 (C.A.9, 1971). However, the United States Supreme Court meanwhile granted certiorari in *Vitales*, and the original *Vitales* decision was vacated as moot when the alien left the country. *Immigration and Naturalization Service v. Vitales*, 405 U.S. 983 (1972).

Later, however the Ninth Circuit rejected its previous ruling in *Vitales* and held §241(f) inapplicable in the "overstay" cases. *Cabuco-Flores v. Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 477 F.2d 108 (C.A.9, 1973), cert. denied, 414 U.S. 841. In *Cabuco-Flores*, *supra*, the Court purported to reaffirm its holding in *Muslemi*, *supra*, but then proceeded to distinguish the facts in *Muslemi*, from the facts before it. Thus, the clear result of *Cabuco-Flores* is to refuse §241(f) relief to all aliens who enter with a temporary visa and then overstay.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup>The Court in *Cabuco-Flores* sought to distinguish *Muslemi*, reasoning that deportation charges were brought against *Muslemi* one day prior to the expiration of his temporary visa, on the ground that he was excludable at the time of entry in that he entered as an "immigrant," i.e., with the intention of remaining permanently, and that he did not then possess a valid immigrant visa. 8 U.S.C. §1251(a)(1). In *Cabuco-Flores*, on the other hand, the alien was deportable for having overstayed the time permitted on his temporary non-immigrant visa. *Cabuco-Flores*, *supra* at 110-111. The Court reasoned that in *Muslemi* the Government was required to prove that *Muslemi* entered with the intent to remain permanently in order to establish that he was excludable for entering as an "immigrant" without a valid immigrant visa. 8 U.S.C. §1251(a)(1), 8 U.S.C. §1182(a)(20). The "fraud" was therefore "germane" to the deportation charge.

In contrast, the Government in *Cabuco-Flores* was only required to prove that the alien had overstayed. For obvious reasons *Cabuco-Flores* effectively negates the benefit an alien would

Finally, there are the *Reid* and *Echeverria* situations of aliens who enter by falsely claiming United States citizenship to an Immigration officer during an inspection at a Port of Entry. Of the cases which have considered §241(f) in this context, only the divided opinion in *Reid* has agreed with the Service's contentions that §241(f) should not be applicable. At least five other Federal appellate decisions have expressly held the contrary and found that §241(f) was applicable. *Lee Fook Chuey v. Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 439 F.2d 244 (C.A.9, 1971); *Echeverria v. Immigration and Naturalization Service* (Opinion unpublished) C.A.9, Feb. 27, 1974, (Petition for Cert. presently pending before this Court, No. 73-1917); *Gonzalez de Moreno v. United States Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 492 F.2d 532 (C.A.5, 1974); *Gonzalez v. Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 493 F.2d 461 (C.A.5, 1974); *United States v. Osuna-Picos* 443 F.2d 907 (C.A.9, 1971).

The Service implicitly argues that these "false claim to citizenship" cases must inevitably be lumped with the "surreptitious entry cases and the "overstay" cases, and that a ruling in favor of the Reids will open a Pandora's box to the necessary application of §241(f) to all forms of illegal entry. We submit that this is not so.

---

derive from the *Muslemi* opinion. The Service need only be careful to bring deportation proceedings under 8 U.S.C. §1252(a)(2), rather than 8 U.S.C. §1251(a)(1) in order to avoid the application of §241(f).

It is important to note that the Court in *Cabuco-Flores* affirmed the ongoing validity of *Lee Fook Chuey v. Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 439 F.2d 244 (C.A.9, 1971) a case virtually identical to *Reid* and *Echeverria*.

While the term "entry" as defined in the Act, 8 U.S.C. §1101(a)(13), could conceivably apply to any of the above three types of cases, a reasonable distinction among the three categories of cases can be drawn on the basis of the express legislative history of §241(f).

The House Committee Report that accompanied §241(f) when it was originally adopted as part of the 1957 Amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act explicitly stated that the primary purpose in adopting §241(f) was to grant relief from deportation to:

"... mostly Mexican Nationals who, during the time when *border-control operations* suffered from *regrettable laxity* were able to enter the United States [and] establish a family in this country. . . ." H.R. Rep. No. 1199, 85th Cong., 1st Sess., U.S. Cong. and Admin. News 1957, p. 2024 (emphasis added).

In view of this language, it is logical that Congress was referring to entries through a *Port of Entry* when it referred to "border control operations." Otherwise the effect of the statute would be to impose an admittedly overwhelming burden on the Service to patrol literally every mile of our five thousand miles of contiguous land borders with Canada and Mexico at the risk of being unable to deport an alien if one slipped across the border.

In addition, the statute logically refers only to those entries through a Port of Entry where the Service is reasonably put on notice that the applicant is



potentially coming into the United States for *permanent residence*.<sup>8</sup>

Accordingly, the so-called "wet-back" cases do not fall within the purview of §241(f) because the entry did not take place through a Port of Entry; the "overstay" cases similarly fall outside the purview of §241(f) in that the Service is not put on notice at the time of original entry that the alien is potentially entering with the intention to remain permanently. These situations contrast with the instance of an alien entry based on a false claim to citizenship made to an Immigration officer at a Port of Entry. An entry based on a false claim to citizenship is no different from an entry with a fraudulently obtained visa. Thus, the unequivocal language of §241(f) and its Legisla-

---

<sup>8</sup>The Government contends (Respondent's Brief, p. 7, fn.6, p. 20) that §241(f) should be held to apply only to aliens who put the Service on notice that they are entering as aliens. They cite the instance of an alien who enters, possessing a temporary non-immigrant visa who fraudulently conceals his intention to remain permanently. As the argument goes, since Courts have held §241(f) inapplicable to aliens who commit fraud, but at least admit their alienage and submit themselves for inspection, surely it should be inapplicable to those who conceal their alienage. The argument ignores the fact that cases of this type have generally been treated as "overstay" cases (see fn.6, *supra*) and are distinguishable from the present case. The rationale for holding §241(f) inapplicable is the fear that there is no way for the Government to ascertain at the time of entry whether the alien seeks to remain permanently, which would trigger more extensive investigatory procedures, and that it is impossible at a deportation hearing for the Government to disprove that the alien entered with the preconceived intent to remain permanently. In the case of an alien claiming to be a United States citizen, the Immigration officer is put on notice that he is coming into the United States to reside permanently. The Immigration officer is afforded the opportunity to further investigate the individual as though he were an alien if he so chooses. At a deportation hearing, the alien bears the burden of establishing all the requisite elements for §241(f) relief. The Service bears no more burden as to proof than it would have in any other proceeding.



tive history militate in favor of holding §241(f) applicable to the Reids.

As discussed in Section III (pages 12-16) of our opening Brief of Amicus Curiae, the Service has plenary power under the Act, see 8 C.F.R. §235.1(b) to summarily reject dubious claims of citizenship and to exclude applicants as aliens pending an exclusionary hearing pursuant to the Act. See 8 U.S.C. §1225. If the Service does not exercise its power in a situation *where it has been reasonably put on notice* that the applicant may be coming into the United States to reside permanently, its laxity in failing to adequately investigate the claim of citizenship (for whatever valid reasons related to foreign policy, domestic farm economy, or otherwise) is clearly the very *administrative laxity of enforcement* which prompted Congress to enact §241(f) in the first place.

#### CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated, and those in our opening brief, the opinion below should be reversed, and the *Echeverria* opinion summarily affirmed.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT B. JOHNSTONE,

MICHAEL L. STERN,

JOSE ANGEL RODRIGUEZ,

ARMANDO MENOCAL, III,

RICHARD A. GONZALES,

*Attorneys for Amicus Curiae.*

January 1975,



(Slip Opinion)

NOTE: Where it is feasible, a syllabus (headnote) will be released, as is being done in connection with this case, at the time the opinion is issued. The syllabus constitutes no part of the opinion of the Court but has been prepared by the Reporter of Decisions for the convenience of the reader. See *United States v. Detroit Lumber Co.*, 200 U.S. 321, 337.

## SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Syllabus

### REID ET UX. *v.* IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR  
THE SECOND CIRCUIT

No. 73-1541. Argued January 20, 1975—Decided March 18, 1975

The Immigration and Naturalization Service, relying on § 241 (a) (2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, instituted deportation proceeding against petitioners, husband and wife who had entered this country after falsely representing themselves to be United States citizens, and thereafter had two children who were born in this country. Section 241 (a), *inter alia*, specifies that an alien shall be deported who (1) at the time of entry was within a class of aliens excludable by the law existing at the time of such entry, or (2) entered the United States without inspection. Section 241 (f) states that "[t]he provisions of this section relating to the deportation of aliens within the United States on the ground that they were excludable at the time of entry as aliens who have sought to procure or have procured visas or other documentation, or entry into the United States by fraud or misrepresentation shall not apply to an alien otherwise admissible at the time of entry who is the spouse, parent, or child of a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence." Petitioners were found deportable, and on petition for review the Court of Appeals affirmed, rejecting petitioners' contention that they were saved by § 241 (f). *Held*: Petitioners were deportable under § 241 (a) (2) of the Act, which establishes as a separate ground for deportation, quite independently of whether the alien was excludable at the time of his arrival, the failure of an alien to present himself for inspection at the time he made his entry. Aliens like petitioners who accomplish entry into this country by making a willfully false representation of United States citizenship are not only excludable under § 212 (a) (19) but have also so significantly frustrated the process for inspecting incoming aliens

## Syllabus

that they are also deportable as persons who have "entered the United States without inspection." *INS v. Errico*, 385 U. S. 214, distinguished. Pp. 3-12.

**Affirmed.**

REHNQUIST, J., delivered the opinion of the Court, in which BURGER, C. J., STEWART, WHITE, BLACKMUN, and POWELL, JJ., joined. BRENNAN, J., filed a dissenting opinion in which MARSHALL, J., joined. DOUGLAS, J., took no part in the consideration or decision of the case.

NOTICE: This opinion is subject to formal revision before publication in the preliminary print of the United States Reports. Readers are requested to notify the Reporter of Decisions, Supreme Court of the United States, Washington, D.C. 20543, of any typographical or other formal errors, in order that corrections may be made before the preliminary print goes to press.

## SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

No. 73-1541

Robert Reid and Nadia Alice Reid, Petitioners, v. Immigration and Naturaliza- tion Service.	}	On Writ of Certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sec- ond Circuit.
---	---	--

[March 18, 1975]

MR. JUSTICE REHNQUIST delivered the opinion of the Court.

Petitioners Robert and Nadia Reid, husband and wife, are citizens of British Honduras. Robert Reid entered the United States at Chula Vista, California, in November 1968, falsely representing himself to be a citizen of the United States. Nadia Reid, employing the same technique, entered at the Chula Vista port of entry two months later. Petitioners have two children who were born in the United States since their entry.

In November 1971, the Immigration and Naturalization Service ("INS") began deportation proceedings against petitioners, which were resolved adversely to them first by a special inquiry officer and then by the Board of Immigration Appeals. On petition for review, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit by a divided vote affirmed the finding of deportability. We granted certiorari to resolve the conflict between this holding and the contrary conclusion of the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in *Lee Fook Chuey v. INS*, 439 F. 2d 244 (1971).<sup>1</sup> — U. S. —.

<sup>1</sup> See, e. g., *United States v. Osuna-Picos*, 443 F. 2d 907 (CA9 1971); *Gonzalez de Moreno v. INS*, 492 F. 2d 532 (CA5 1974);

Because of the complexity of congressional enactments relating to immigration, some understanding of the structure of these laws is required before evaluating the legal contentions of petitioners. The McCarran-Walter Act, enacted by Congress in 1952, although frequently amended since that date, remains the basic format of the immigration laws. "Although the McCarran-Walter Act has been repeatedly amended, it still is the basic statute dealing with immigration and nationality. The amendments have been fitted into the structure of the parent statute and most of the original enactment remains undisturbed." Gordon and Rosenfield, *Immigration Law and Procedure*, pp. 1-13, 14 (1974 rev. ed.).

Section 212 of the Act as amended, 8 U. S. C. § 1182, specifies various grounds for *exclusion* of aliens seeking admission to this country. Section 241 of the Act, 8 U. S. C. § 1251, specifies grounds for *deportation* of aliens already in this country. Section 241 (a) specifies 18 different bases for deportation, among which only the first two need directly concern us:

"Any alien in the United States . . . shall, upon the order of the Attorney General, be deported who—

"(1) at the time of entry was within one or more classes of aliens excludable by the law existing at the time of such entry;

"(2) entered the United States without inspection or at any time or place other than as designated by the Attorney General or is in the United States in violation of this chapter or in violation of any other law of the United States . . . ."

The INS seeks to deport petitioners under the provisions of § 241 (a) (2), asserting that they entered the

---

*Gonzalez v. INS*, 493 F. 2d 461 (CA5 1974); *Bufalino v. INS*, 473 F. 2d 728 (CA3), cert. denied, 412 U. S. 928 (1973).

United States without inspection.<sup>2</sup> Petitioners dispute none of the factual predicates upon which the INS bases its claim, but instead argue that their case is saved by the provisions of § 241 (f), which provides in pertinent part as follows:

"The provisions of this section relating to the deportation of aliens within the United States on the ground that they were *excludable at the time of entry as aliens who have sought to procure or have procured visas or other documentation, or entry into the United States by fraud or misrepresentation* shall not apply to an alien otherwise admissible at the time of entry who is the spouse, parent, or child of a United States citizen or of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence." (Emphasis supplied.)

Petitioners contend that they are entitled to the benefits of § 241 (f) "by virtue of its explicit language." This contention is plainly wrong, and for more than one reason.

The language of § 241 (f) tracks with the provisions of § 212 (a)(19), 8 U. S. C. § 1182 (a)(19), dealing with aliens who are *excludable*, and providing in pertinent part as follows:

"Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the following classes of aliens shall be ineligible to receive visas and shall be *excluded* for admission into the United States:

"(19) any alien who seeks to procure, or who has sought to procure, or has procured a visa or other

---

<sup>2</sup> Entry without inspection is grounds for deportation under § 241 (a)(2) even though the alien was not excludable at the time of entry under § 241 (a)(1). 1 Gordon & Rosenfeld, Immigration Law and Procedure, § 4.8b (1974 rev. ed.). It is a basis for deportation wholly independent of any basis for deportation which may exist under § 241 (a)(1).



*documentation, or seeks to enter the United States, by fraud, or by willfully misrepresenting a material fact"; (Emphasis supplied.)*

Thus the "explicit language" of § 241 (f), upon which petitioners rely, waives deportation for aliens who are "excludable at the time of entry" by reason of the fraud specified in § 212 (a) (19), and for that reason deportable under the provisions of § 241 (a) (1). If the INS were seeking to deport petitioners on this ground, they would be entitled to have applied to them the provisions of § 241 (f) because of the birth of their children after entry.

But the INS in this case does not rely on § 212 (a) (19), nor indeed on any of the other grounds for *excludability* under § 212, which are in turn made grounds for *deportation* by the language of § 241 (a) (1). It is instead relying on the separate provision of § 241 (a) (2), which does not depend in any way upon the fact that an alien was excludable at the time of his entry on one of the grounds specified in § 212 (a). Section 241 (a) (2) establishes as a separate ground for deportation, quite independently of whether the alien was excludable at the time of his arrival, the failure of an alien to present himself for inspection at the time he made his entry. If this ground is established by the admitted facts, nothing in the waiver provision of § 241 (f), which by its terms grants relief against deportation of aliens "on the ground that they were excludable at the time of entry," has any bearing on the case. Cf. *Constanzo v. Tillinghast*, 287 U. S. 341, 343 (1932).

The issue before us, then, turns upon whether petitioners, who accomplished their entry into the United States by falsely asserting that they were citizens of this country, can be held to have "entered the United States without inspection." Obviously not every misrepresentation on the part of an alien making an entry into the

United States can be said to amount to an entry without inspection. But the courts of appeals have held that an alien who accomplishes entry into this country by making a willfully false representation that he is a United States citizen may be charged with entry without inspection. *Ex parte Saadi*, 26 F. 2d 458 (CA9 1928), cert. denied, 278 U. S. 616; *Volpe v. Smith*, 62 F. 2d 808 (CA7), aff'd on other grounds, 289 U. S. 422, 424 (1933); *Huie v. INS*, 348 F. 2d 1014 (CA9 1965). We agree with these holdings, and conclude that an alien making an entry into this country who falsely represents himself to be a citizen would not only be excludable under § 212 (a) (19) if he were detected at the time of his entry, but has also so significantly frustrated the process for inspecting incoming aliens that he is also deportable as one who has "entered the United States without inspection." In reaching this conclusion we subscribe to the reasoning of Judge Aldrich, writing for the Court of Appeals for the First Circuit in *Goon Nee Heung v. INS*, 380 F. 2d 236, 237 (CA1 1967), cert. denied, 389 U. S. 975 (1968):

"Whatever the effect other misrepresentations may arguably have on an alien's being legally considered to have been inspected upon entering the country, we do not now consider; we are here concerned solely with an entry under a fraudulent claim of citizenship. Aliens who enter as citizens, rather than as aliens, are treated substantially differently by immigration authorities. The examination to which citizens are subjected is likely to be considerably more perfunctory than that accorded aliens. Gordon & Rosenfield, *Immigration Law and Procedure* § 316d (1969). Also, aliens are required to fill out alien registration forms, copies of which are retained by the immigration authorities. 8 C. F. R. §§ 235.4, 264.1; 8 U. S. C. §§ 1201 (b), 1301-1306. Fingerprinting is required

for most aliens. 8 U. S. C. §§ 1201 (b), 1301-1302. The net effect, therefore, of a person's entering the country as an admitted alien is that the immigration authorities, in addition to making a closer examination of his right to enter in the first place, require and obtain information and a variety of records that enable them to keep track of the alien after his entry. Since none of these requirements is applicable to citizens, an alien who enters by claiming to be a citizen has effectively put himself in a quite different position from other admitted aliens, one more comparable to that of a person who slips over the border and who has, therefore, clearly not been inspected."

Petitioners rely upon this Court's decision in *INS v. Errico*, 385 U. S. 214 (1966). There the Court decided two companion cases involving fraudulent representations by aliens in connection with quota requirements which existed at the time *Errico* was decided, but which were prospectively repealed in 1965. Errico, a native of Italy, falsely represented to the authorities that he was a skilled mechanic with specialized experience in repairing foreign automobiles. On the basis of that representation he was granted first preference quota status under the statutory preference scheme then in effect, entered the United States with his wife, and later fathered a child by her.

Scott, a native of Jamaica, contracted a marriage with a United States citizen by proxy solely for the purpose of obtaining nonquota status for her entry into the country. She never lived with her husband and never intended to do so. After entering the United States in 1958, she gave birth to an illegitimate child, who thereby became an American citizen at birth.

When the INS discovered the fraud in each of these

cases, it sought to deport both Errico and Scott on the grounds that they were "within one or more of the classes of aliens excludable by the law existing at the time" of their entry, and therefore deportable under § 241 (a)(1). The INS did not rely on the provisions of § 212 (a)(19), making excludable an alien who has procured a visa or other documentation or entry by fraud, nor indeed did it rely on any other of the subsections of § 212 dealing with excludable aliens. Instead it relied on an entirely separate portion of the statute, § 211, 8 U. S. C. § 1181, prospectively amended in 1965,<sup>3</sup> but reading, as applicable to Errico and Scott, as follows:

"No immigrant shall be admitted into the United States unless at the time of application for admission he (1) has a valid unexpired immigrant visa or was born subsequent to the issuance of such immigrant visa of the accompanying parent, (2) is properly chargeable to the quota specified in the immigrant visa, (3) is a non-quota immigrant as specified as such in the immigrant visa, (4) is of the proper status under the quota specified in the immigrant visa, and (5) is otherwise admissible under this Act."

The INS contended that Errico fell within the proscription of 211 (a)(4), and that Scott fell within the proscription of § 211 (a)(3) of that section, and that therefore that section prohibited their admission into the United States as of the time of their entry. It apparently reasoned from these admitted facts that both Errico

<sup>3</sup> Section 211 of the Act was amended by § 9, Act of October 3, 1965, Pub. L. 89-236, 79 Stat. 911 in connection with revision of the numerical quota system established by the Act. Since § 241 (a)(1) deals with excludability under the immigration law as it existed at the time of entry, the Court in *Errico* looked to § 211 as it existed prior to the amendment. *INS v. Errico*, 385 U. S. 214, 215 n. 2 (1966).